

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)

SABARATNUM SABANATHAN)

Examiner: Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned)

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith)

For: OCCLUSION DEVICE)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The claims under amendment are amended claims 1-25, which were submitted with client's letter of June 23, 1999. Please enter the following preliminary amendment in this application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 6, 8-12, 14-16, 18, 20 and 24 as follows:

3. (Amended) Use as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], in which the two elements are separate components, the blocking element serving to seal the tube or tubule against the passage of fluid past the obturator when the obturator is disposed in a bronchial tube or tubule, and the securing element serving to retain the blocking element in position in the tube or tubule.

4. (Amended) Use as claimed in claim 1, [2 or 3,] in which the blocking element comprises a substantially cylindrical plug of biocompatible material.

6. (Amended) Use as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1, in which the securing element comprises a stent [(90, 90b, 90bb, 202, 302)].